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Strikers Fight Associated Farmers in Maryville

See Page 3

See Pres. Henderson's Letter—Page 8

Official Publication of
The United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and
Allied Workers of America, CIO.

UCAPAWA NEWS

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WHO IS WHO IN OUR UNION

EDWARD MITCHELL

Outstanding Leader

By EDWARD LEBER

Secretary-Treasure Local 283

Edward Mitchell is the type of leader any labor organization should be proud of. His untiring efforts should set an example for any good union member.

At present he holds three official union positions. He is president of the Chicago Canners Council, president of Local 283 and vice-president of District 5 UCAPAWA.

Organized College Inn

When the idea of unionism entered his mind in August, 1938, he went right to work and organized the College Inn Food Products plant in Chicago. He did this practically single-handed. With the help of one or two others, he visited the workers in their homes and convinced them that they needed a labor organization.

Within four weeks the College Inn Food Products Co. signed a contract with UCAPAWA.

Local 283 then sent delegates to the Chicago Canneries' Council. At that time the council was not functioning very well. After two meetings Mitchell was elected president of the council.

We are proud to say that now the Canneries' Council is doing fine work and is able to pay the expenses of our International Representative John Schmies.

Schmies, wth the fullest cooperation and support from Mitchell, was able to organize the Rival Packing Co. in less than a month.

The people of Local 283 look up to the leadership of Mitchell not only for labor guidance but also for advice about their private affairs.

Always Ready to Help

A good example of this is when a woman, working at the plant, was taken sick and never recovered. She died October, 1938. The woman's husband did not apply for his wife's insurance. He was too grieved to think about it and threw the policy away.

Eight months later, Mitchell, in a discussion with the College Inn management on health and accident insurance, inquired about this woman and asked whether her husband had received the insurance. When Mitchell found that the man was not paid he notified him. Within two weeks the man received $1,000 which he should have had eight months before.

Mitchell, like many other people who enjoy seeing others happy, is modest.

Earl Fruit Company and Associated Farmers Snub U. S. Law and Constitution for Sake Of Checking Marysville Field Workers Union

By ALEX BROOKS, Temporary Publicity Chairman
(Bill Wheeler, Chairman, in Jail)

Good example of the dangerous and wicked activities of the Associated Farmers is the story of violence unfolded in Marysville, Cal., during the past month.

In an attempt to smash the UCAPAWA local, the Earl Fruit Co. and the Associated Farmers worked their two good friends, the Sheriff and District Attorney.

Both Sheriff McCoy and the District Attorney are good followers of Mammon. They obeyed Associated and Fruit Company orders. Practically everyone who had struck against the Earl Fruit Co. was arrested.

Some were grabbed on the picket line. Others were picked up in illegal raids made on union headquarters.

Olson Backs Strikers

Despite protests by Governor Olson and investigations by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the American Civil Liberties' Union and representatives from the Governor's office, 97 men were put in jail. They included the president of UCAPAWA Local 197, the president of the Workers Alliance and the District Organizer of the C. I. O.

That arrests have been made for the sole purpose of breaking the union is no secret. Sheriff McCoy said to Rufus Bell, while arresting him:

"This is the end of your union." Similar statements were made to other men picketing the Earl Fruit ranches.

Earl Fruit Co. is a subsidiary of the Di Giorgio interests. They are closely connected with the Associated Farmers. Elmer Andrews, Administrator of the Wages and Hours Act, recently declared that the Associated Farmers were "a menace" to California.

A. F. Acts Like Nazis

There is little difference between the Associated Farmers and the Nazi Party of Germany. Both groups thumb their noses at laws made by the people and at officials duly elected by the people.

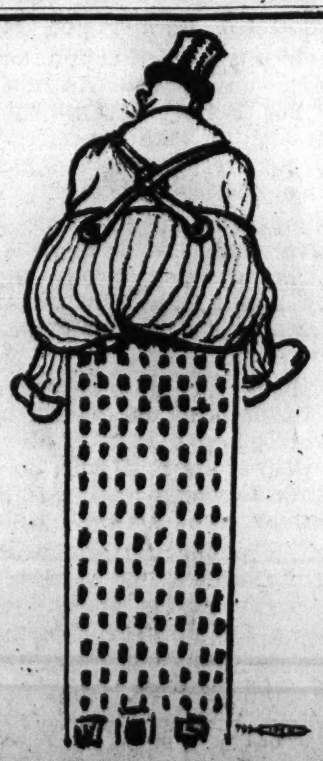
When Governor Olson's office suggested a meeting between picketers and the Earl Fruit Co. representatives, the manager of one of the ranches declined with a sharply worded telegram.

Cause of the present disturbance stems back to a successful strike won by fruit pickers on the Earl Company ranches last May.

At that time wages were only 25c an hour. The strike raised them to 30c. A "Gentlemen's Agreement" witnessed by the District Attorney and the Sheriff, was made. The agreement provided that there should be no discrimination against the workers who had gone on strike.

In spite of the agreement, discrimination followed. UCAPAWA learned a lesson. Agreements, especially "Gentlemen's agreements," can't be made with Associated Farmers. Same thing happens to these as happens to agreements made with Herr Hitler. Associated Farmers and Hitler are one and the same thing. We must put this fact in our pipes and smoke over it thoughtfuly. Associated Farmers are growing and they are UCAPAWA's gravest enemy. We can never take their word. We must take their power from them.

Associated Farmers Pull 'Em Down!



Instigate Race Hate

Jobs of most of the strikers were taken by Filipinos and Japanese who were shipped into the County by the Earl Fruit Co. and the Associated Farmers.

Like Hitler, the aim was to start race feeling running high so that workers would be fighting each other instead of the company and the Associated Farmers.

In protest against these practices UCAPAWA Local 197, notified the Filipino Agricultural Laborers Ass'n that Filipino workers were scabbing on their fellow workers.

Most of the Filipino workers were persuaded to leave the ranch, by Manuel Insigne, representative of the Filipino Agricultural Laborers' Assn.

Resort to Arms

Convinced that the company had no intention of rehiring strikers, in spite of its agreement, UCAPAWA leaders arranged a conference with Mr. Wolfskill, one of the ranch managers.

The union committee was stopped at the entrance of the ranch by an iron gate. They were met by a guard with a pistol.

When representatives of Local 197 UCAPAWA asked about rehiring the men as agreed, Wolfskill said:

"Nobody in the damn union can work here and nobody who struck can work here."

He went on to say that in May workers had built a fire under him but now he

(Continued on page 4)

Earl Fruit Company And Asso. Farmers Snub U. S. Law

(Continued from Page Three)

had the fire under the workers and was going to keep it there.

Sheriff Aids Boss

Immediately the men decided to throw a picket line around the ranch in protest of Wolfskill's broken promise.

Sheriff McCoy arrested five who he thought were leaders. Coupled with his arrest of peaceful pickets was McCoy's invaluable assistance to the company in escorting strike breakers through the picket lines.

Later McCoy arrested 17 men for violating the anti-picketing ordinance. He clubbed five pickets, drove them over the county line, dumped them out of the auto and told them that if they appeared in the county again they would be "shot on sight."

Drunks Freed, Strikers Jailed

Arrests continued on the picket lines and through two illegal raids made on the union hall by the sheriff and his men.

When wholesale arrests were over there were 97 pickets in jail. Room was made for them by releasing drunkards who had been arrested previously.

Twenty-two of the men have been tried to date. Three of them have been convicted. They are Rufus Bell, recording secretary of UCAPAWA Local 197; William Davis and William Walker.

The Marysville Defence Committee with headquarters in the Balboa Building, San Francisco, is raising funds to test out the constitutionality of the anti-picketing ordinance in Marysville. It was on the basis of this ordinance that picketers were arrested.

The sympathy of the townspeople is with the union. Much assistance for the soup kitchen has been received though the union is still in need of financial assistance.

UCAPAWA Fights Associated Farmers

The Highway Commissioner of Arizona is president of the Associated Farmers in Maricopa County.

Local 78 UCAPAWA, together with other labor groups in the state, has petitioned the Goveror of Arizona for the removal of Kemper Marley, Highway Commissioner and Associated Farmer leader.

His actions in rallying mobs against

CRANBERRY BOG workers want holiday dinners, too

labor groups have been fully exposed.

Last March and April, during the time of negotiations of Local 78 UCAPAWA with shippers, the Associated Farmers threatened mob violence.

UCAPAWA, together with the Arizona Unity League For Better Government sent a petition to Governor Jones that read in part:

"Public Servant Usurps Power"

"Realizing that mob violence is a vicious threat to the Democratic principles of our country, and seeing these Democratic principles ruthlessly ignored by the Associated Farmers of Maricopa County in the recent action against a recognized union, the Arizona Unity League For Better Government deems it necessary to take concerted action against the President of the Associated Farmers of Maricopa County.

"Kemper Marley, president of the Associated Farmers, recently demonstrated his attitude toward organized labor by urging his group to take mob action against a bona fide labor organization.

"Mr. Marley urged some 400 men to violate the laws of our nation by sending them out on a mission of violence, armed with clubs and guns to destroy certain rights which are guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.

"When a public servant usurps the powers of Congress and violates Constitutional rights as Mr. Marley has done, it becomes the duty of citizens to request his removal from office."

Stopped Pay Cuts

Local 78 of UCAPAWA was able to stop pay cuts threatened citrus workers in four sheds, where every worker walked out for one day, in spite of Marley's threats.

The Arizona as well as the California Labor Movement is commencing to hammer away at the Associated Farmers and their un-American doctrines and activities.

It is good news that the LaFollette Civil Liberties' Committee has been given another appropriation to investigate espionage on the West Coast. The LaFollette Committee and the unions should cramp the Associated Farmers style for good.

Cranberry Bog Workers Join UCAPAWA

From Bryantsville, Mass., Brother Antonio Roderick wrote UCAPAWA that cranberry bog workers want to organize. Labor people in Brockton are helping cranberry pickers in every way possible.

Brother Roderick says they are signing up fast. It looks as though bog workers are sick of picking berries for fancy holiday dinners at a rate of wages that prevent the bog workers themselves from getting a square meal.

Cranberry workers are worried this year because bog owners have pulled a fast one. They have taken the control of the police in Carver, Mass., away from the Selectmen to whom the control rightfully beyongs.

Police in Carver are now controlled by 26 bog owners. Cranberry workers say that this places them in a very bad position. They fear that bog owners are planning wage reductions and for this reason grabbed control of the police force in case big workers should protest.

Field Workers Signing Up Fast

By OREN H. BROWN,
Local 20 UCAPAWA

The Stockton migratory workers' camp is now organized 100 per cent. People in the camp started working for 25c an hour but once they were organized, they stood pat and asked for 30c. Farmers gave them the 30c immediately and have now raised wages to 32c an hour.

Private Camp Organized

We have 100 members in a private camp at Linden, twelve miles from Stockton. New members are joining at the Linden camp almost every day.

We have been slow in getting started but I really think we are on the right track and you will hear from us more often as I can see daylight at this time.

NEWS OF THE MONTH

Milk Strike Won Thru Co-operation Of Farm and Labor

The victory of the Dairy Farmers Union in the recent New York milk strike is to be hailed by organized labor, and especially UCAPAWA for many reasons.

First of all, this victory will benefit thousands of dairy farmers. They have won a 43 per cent increase in the price of their milk.

Most important aspect of this strike was the co-operation of organized labor with the Dairy Farmers Union. This co-operation finally puts the lie on statements made by reactionary farm organizations that labor and the farmer have nothing in common.

Wright Praises Labor

Archie Wright, president of the Dairy Farmers Union, spoke at length on the support given dairy farmers by labor.

"When I was forced to complain to the Commissioner of Markets against the threat to extend the milk shed, that complaint was backed up by every union in New York state, and that complaint for the first time in history was backed up by the Commissioner of Markets.

"You got not only the response of your fellow-producers, but the help of the entire public," said Archie Wright to victorious dairy farmers.

"Without that help the milk shed would have been opened," he continued.

What This Means

In New York state the CIO through its milk strike support is now in a position to win a united legislative front with farmers against anti-labor laws.

Recent attempts of fake farm organizations to drastically amend the Wage Hour Law will be spiked pretty hard, as the CIO has proved to the real farmers that it is ready to support them in their fight against packers, milk producers, etc.

This victory is of particular significance to UCAPAWA. Our international has always stood for co-operation with the real farmer against banker farmers and packing and processing concerns. Our union has worked with the small farmers.

Recent CIO action proves once again, more drastically than ever, that the real friends of the real farmers are labor.

This great Farmer-Labor victory should check further attempts to amend the Wage Hour Law by fake farm outfits.

●

Labor Spy Probe Will Continue In California

Continuation of the LaFollette Committee investigation into the union-busting anti-Democratic Associated Farmers is now assured.

The Senate appropriated $50,000 for this purpose before its adjournment.

Public hearings in which labor spies and the Associated Farmers will be fully blasted and exposed are expected to begin soon.

The continuance of LaFollette Committee investigation comes at a timely moment. The Associated have been getting pretty fresh this summer. The sooner dope can be gotten so that the law can take care of them the better for labor and for UCAPAWA.

●

Lewis Speech Puts Garner Out Of Running

The "whiskey-drinking, poker-playing, evil old man" is definitely out of the running. For this we can thank John L. Lewis, who again rose and spoke the plain truth, as he always does.

In speaking against the Wage Hour Law amendments, Lewis put the blame for the amendment campaign right smack where it belonged. He showed that John Garner was at the back of the foul campaign to cheat masses of the American people out of what they had rightfully won.

"Yes, I make a personal attack on Mr. Garner for what he is doing," said Lewis. "I am against him personally, concretely and in the abstract when his knife searches for the heart of my people.

"I am against him in 1939 and I will be against him in 1940, when he seeks the Presidency of the United States.

"And I say to Mr. Garner, and I say to the people of the United States, that he will never achieve the Presidency of this Republic by baiting labor and seeking to debase Americans," continued Lewis.

Every day Lewis' people are increasing in numbers and strength. Let us keep on increasing their numbers and strength so that not only Garner but other reactionaries won't dare to show their faces in 1940.

●

Take a Tip From Farmers!

Taking a tip from last year's successful farmers' strike for decent prices for their tomatoes, Grape Belt cannery workers are organizing this year for decent wages and decent working conditions.

It is the sad truth that for 50 years the canneries have reaped all the profits out of the produce the farmers raise, and we the workers pack. Miserable wages for workers, ruinous prices for farmers, fat profits for canneries: This has been the history of the Grape Belt.

While canneries in New Jersey and elsewhere paid $19 and $11 for tomatoes last year, local farmers had to strike to get $12. What do the canneries here offer to pay the farmers this year?

While Jersey canneries and other western New York canneries were paying 35c and 30c per hour, Grape Belt canneries paid 17½c and less to the workers.

Both Labor & Farmer Get Raw Deal

Our fight is one fight. For our exploiters are the same. LET'S STICK TOGETHER.

Union labor will co-operate with you to get a decent price for your produce. Cannery workers do not want to strike; but if we have to, will you co-operate with us? In return we give you sacred pledge to stand by you when you seek a fair price for your produce.

TOGETHER, WE SHALL BOTH WIN!

By John Hess, District Representative; Anthony Constantino, Union Attorney.
UNITED CANNERY WORKERS, CIO,,
423 Main St., Dunkirk, N. Y.

MUSHROOM WORKERS WIN VICTORY

DENVER, Colo.—The mushroom workers labor board case against the Great Western Mushroom Co. was settled without a hearing when the company agreed to rehire seven workers, post a notice on the right to organize, and pay partial back wages.

The settlement was made on July 29, just three days before the scheduled hearing.

A drive to organize the plant and overcome Savery's paternalistic methods of preventing organization is now under way.

GREENHOUSE EMPLOYEES PREPARE FOR ELECTION

DENVER, Colo.—The labor board representation hearing at the Park Floral Co. has been authorized and it is expected to take place in the next two or three weeks. Local 510 is now planning for an election that may result from the hearing

Missouri Roadside Demonstrators Struggle for Life in Their Own Camp

By O. H. WHITFIELD and JOHN DAY

***Editorial Note:** Do you remember the story of the plucky Missouri sharecroppers evicted in Butler County last winter? They took to the roads rather than work for 75c a day. Under the leadership of Reverend Whitfield they bought a bit of land and are now living there. This is the story of these fighting Southern families as told by Brother Whitfield and Brother John Day who are both working with these brave members of UCAPAWA.*

On January 10, the last day of grace after eviction notices had been served, 100 miles of highway along Route 61 were covered with sharecroppers, with their sticks and furniture piled up along the fence, all sitting there watching the world go by.

By January 10 some 600 people with nowhere to go decided that rather than work 16 hours a day for 75c and attempt to raise their children on the traditional sub-existence level, these courageous evicted sharecroppers decided to "just walk out along the highway till I starve out and die." This might show the world what the sharecropping system was doing to ten million American citizens.

FEW COULD HELP

Negro and white families, they sat there snowed on and sleeted on. And people going north and south saw them. People going east and west stopped to ask them. Newspapermen came out and talked with them and photographers flashed bulbs in their faces as they slept.

Truckloads of food were sent by sympathetic people from the outside. But truckloads of food didn't or wasn't allowed to reach these people. Reactionary landlord forces organized committees to head them off.

SINS HIGH LIGHTED

Bosses and officials of this section didn't like the attention this highlighting of their sins was attracting. One night the country doctor came onto the highway, poked at people's teeth and said: "Bad, bad; these people are a menace to public health. They must be removed at once."

These homeless people on the highway were a menace to public health. So vigilante committees came in trucks and hauled them off. As many as 32 families were dumped in two-roomed abandoned buildings. Twenty-three families, white and black, were piled on top of the Mississippi Levee. Twenty-five families were crowed into an unused church. And here off the road these folks were huddled together so that they wouldn't be a menace to public health.

THE FOLKS FIGHT

Then these union members—for they are all CIO brothers—decided they must stick together. They must carry on their fight. They must strengthen themselves to help themselves.

They secured a 93-acre tract of land near water and there they moved. Some had tents. Some didn't. The only money or food they had was the result of two or three cotton grant checks they secured.

STILL FIGHTING

These CIO brothers of ours are on this land now. No more cotton checks since Congress rode the crest of reaction. Relief means four pounds of corn grit a month for as many as ten in a family. Grease or salt is a luxury. Over 50 log cabins are incomplete because there are no nails and the cold is coming.

These people fought for the right to educate their children. They have just won that fight. They are carrying on a fight now for medical attention. There was a still birth at the camp last week—no doctor.

An emergency committee went to Popular Bluff, 15 miles, to get a doctor for a man in a critical condition. The doctor refused to come. The county doctor is the brother of a large Mississippi landlord, where many of these brave evicted sharecroppers come from. He has refused all calls.

Three hundred CIO members are carrying on the fight in cotton under the most desperate conditions. White and Negro have banded together and solidly offered impregnable resistance to the enemies of progressive unionism and to the enemies of the working class.

FOOD AND SHELTER MAIN PROBLEM

John Day, international representative of UCAPAWA, held a meeting at these people's camp last week. Member after member took the floor and testified to their belief that the union was the one thing that could help them overcome their present slavery.

But each speaker said, "We are hungry. There ain't been one full meal at the camp since we have been out here. We're building and toting logs to get shelter before winter, but we can't get nails. What I want to know is there any way this union or the people outside who are friends can help us until we get a little cotton picking and something to help ourselves."

UCAPAWA PLANS APPEAL

UCAPAWA is planning to appeal to friends of these people. Meanwhile, if more fortunate locals or members of UCAPAWA can do anything, send your help to REV. OWEN WHITFIELD, BOX 54, PINE STREET YMCA, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

Cotton Compress Tries to Put One Over

By B. E. JOHNSON, Jr.
President Local 311, Stockton, Cal.

The contract that the Port Stockton Compress is trying to get our local to sign is the worst piece of literature

(Continued on page 7)

Cotton Compress Tries To Put One Over

(Continued from page 6)

I have ever had an opportunity to read. We have presented two contracts to the company. They refuse to consider either. We are therefore going to call the National Labor Relations Board to get the employer to negotiate in good faith.

We want to publish some parts of the contents of the contract the employer wants us to sign as we want the labor world to see it.

Here are clauses 4 and 6:

4. The employer shall have the sole right to promote, transfer and assign any of its employes to any position so as to assure the best results obtainable, and shall be the sole judge of the fitness of its employes for such promotion, transfer and assignment.

Any employe so promoted and assigned or transferred shall receive the rates of pay applicable to the new position after the completion of one full day's work.

6. That there shall be no strike, refusal to work, sit-down, picketing, or boycotting or any other interference with or interruption of the normal conduct of the company's business by the union or its members, or lockout on the part of the company during the term of this agreement.

The union further agrees that during the term of this agreement it will not order but make every effort to prevent the cessation of work by any of tts members employed by the company for any reason and especially for the following reasons: (a) Union jurisdictional dispute, (b) Sympathetic strikes.

We may have a tough fight with the reactionaries, owners and stockholders of this company, but we are not going to give up. We have started a worthy cause for the oppressed group of workers.

East Texas Has Some Names To Live Up to

By HARRY KOGER,
UCAPAWA District Representative
Longview, Texas

Here are a few of our East Texas locals' names which at least show some imagination:

Greenville Star Local.

Tatum Emergency Local.

Willing Workers Friendship Local (Harmony Hill).

Easton Evening Star Local.

West Point Local (Longview).

And here are a few names of members, or near members:

Precious Hawkins.

Darling Jones.

General Jackson.

We are hot on the trial of a certain Mr. God-a-mighty Jackson, whose high-aspiring but unusual name we hope soon to have on our membership roles.

If there is anything in names, the parents of Sub-district Treasurer King A. Moore certainly meant well by their male offspring. In addition to Brother King, there are Judge, Columbus and Joshua. We also have a J. Garner, but Brother Joe doesn't claim relationship with any "poker-playing, whiskey-drinking, labor-baiting old man."

The UCAPAWA News is eagerly read by our East Texas members. Many of them have thought they were the country's most exploited and oppressed people. But with all their landlord, banker, merchant exploitation and Ku Klux Klan terrorism they are encouraged when they read of other CIO brothers and sisters who are fighting againt tremendous odds—and winning.

LANDLORDS still get the breaks but Labor looms higher—the Union makes workers strong, landlords weak

General President's Letter

TOWARD AN IMPROVEMENT IN DISTRICT ORGANIZATION—2

In last month's issue, I started discussing district organization, its functions, and its importance to locals and the International. That article should be re-read and studied together with this month's article.

The only basis on which a healthy district organization can be built and carry out the necessary activities are the holding of regular district conventions and the active regular functioning of the elected District Board.

District 1 (Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska) and District 8 (Texas) have practically liquidated their districts as a result of no conventions and no real board or board meetings. As a result there has been no collective leadership, no collective decisions and plans as to spending of district funds, no district educational work, no planned organizational work outside of that pushed by individual locals. Worst of all, leadership in these districts has gone by default into the hands of one or two individuals who alone have to decide matters of policy, of spending, or organizational work, etc.

It should be clear that where such conditions exist, it is not primarily the fault of these individuals but rather the fault of the locals in these districts. These conditions develop not because some individual is a dictator but rather because locals become wrapped up in their own internal problems and fail to realize the need for district organization and leadership.

COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP MEANS COLLECTIVE SPENDING

I wish to stress particularly the necessity for responsible collective spending of the district funds and control over finances. This means regular board meetings to outline and approve plans for future spending and for checking up on the immediate past expenditures. It means regular financial reports to board members and locals on district finances between board meeting and conventions. Control of finances not only determines the life of the district but it also very largely determines the amount of responsibility felt by board members towards the problems of the district.

District 7 (New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey) and District 5 (Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois) have particularly good records in developing active responsible District Boards. Let us look at some of the practices which they follow.

Fairly frequent and regular board meetings are held. Carefuly prepared minutes of all board meetings with a record of all decisions are mimeographed and made available to all locals. The finances of these districts are handled on the basis of collective board discussions and decisions and a check up on the results of these decisions is made. Regular financial reports are made to all locals and board members and to the International.

EDUCATIONAL WORK IN THE DISTRICTS

Responsibility for two main types of educational work, at a bare minimum, rests on the shoulders of the district board and the district officials. First, the publication of a bi-monthly bulletin to keep the locals and members acquainted with developments and week to week problems of the district is necessary. This bulletin is also essential to consolidate the locals and members for various political, organizational, and educational campaigns on a district and national scale.

Secondly, the district must be responsible for initiating, guiding, and supplying materials to locals for somewhat more formal educational work. The holding of classes on a local or city scale in trade union problems is essential as we grow. Leaders are not produced alone by shop and field struggles. How to run your local, an understanding of the various social and labor laws such as the Wagner Act, the Social Security Law, the Wages and Hours Law, how to utilize various government agencies, etc. require some training and trade union schooling.

With the exception of the Toledo, Ohio Council classes, very little has been done along these lines.

DISTRICTS RESPONSIBLE FOR LOCALS

During the early months after the formation of the International, it was perhaps impossible for newly formed districts to keep control over the haphazard chartering of new locals, and to supervise the internal affairs of existing locals. After two years this condition should no longer continue.

From now on new locals will not be chartered by the International without the recommendation of responsible district officials or, on appeal, by International Board members.

Today, in most districts there are numerous locals whose handling of their internal affairs, organizational and financial, is scandalous. Responsibility for clearing these up is with the district.

PRES. DONALD HENDERSON

Again, regular reports, once a month, by all locals should be made to the districts covering the local's activities, its problems, and its finances. These reports supplemented by the reports made to the districts by the International office on per capita, etc., give the districts adequate information to enable them to act. Locals whose reports show they are drifting into trouble, financial or otherwise, can usualy be straightened out by prompt district action.

Present conditions in Districts 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9 in this respect would be quite different had regular local reports and prompt district action been made.

INDUSTRY RESPONSIBILITY

In certain large districts, such as Districts 1 and 2, some division within the district and centering of responsibility for industry groups is becoming essential. In California, for example, groups of locals in fish and seafood, in fruit and vegetable canning and processing, in cotton, and in field worker locals need special atention and selected individuals, responsible on a district scale, for handling their problems. No person can become an expert in all these fields and industries.

As we grow, this condition becomes more widespread and we must meet it.

DISTRICT LEADERS MUST RESPOND

In conclusion, I want to repeat that the purpose of these last two letters has been to open discussion on district organization and functions and not to issue a set of final conclusions and rules.

Donald Henderson

Federal Legislation and Administrative Rulings Important to UCAPAWA

POLL TAX ABOLITION ON U. S. CALENDAR

Overlooked in the closing hours of Congress but on the calendar when the session reconvenes, in January, was a bill attacking restriction on the right to vote of millions of Americans, particularly Negroes now disfranchised in the South by local discrimination.

The bill was introduced an hour before adjournment by Representative Leo Geyer, California New Dealer. It would outlaw the poll tax in Federal elections.

It is sponsored by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare's Civil Rights Committee and was introduced at the request of this broad organization of Southern progressives.

The measure proposes an amendment to the Corrupt Practices Act. Once the poll tax were abolished it make it possible for working class people in the South to vote. It would be easier to speed progressive legislation and to keep reactionaries from getting into office. Had there been no poll tax, Southern reactionary congressmen would not have been opposing and knifing new deal legislation in the last Congress.

WAGE-HOUR AMENDMENT STILL REMAINS MENACE

Congress didn't take action on the amendments proposed to the Wage Hours Act. The Bill is still unfinished business, however. The amendments are still a menace to labor. They would exclude food processing workers from the benefits of the Act.

General Pres. Donald Henderson of UCAPAWA has addressed a letter to each member of the House of Representaives pointing out:

"The only difference between these amendments affecting agricultural processing workers is that some only commit manslaughter while the others commit murder."

Henderson said:

"For the purpose of the record we wish to express our complete opposition to all pending amendments to the Wage and Hour Act.

"After all it is our ox that is being gored. It is our people, in the agricultural processing industries who will suffer loss of food, clothes and other bare necessities of life if and when you pass these amendments.

"Pecan shellers used to get five cents an hour. They now get twenty-five cents an hour. These proposed amendments are designed to take food and the necessities of life away from such people as the pecan shellers and cannery workers in order to put more money in the pockets of the food processing trusts. These trusts have always been enemies of the farmers."

RULES OF NLRB— ATTENTION LOCALS!

The National Labor Relations Board has recently changed its rules. A few of the more important changes involve the following:

1. **Petitions for election at request of employers.**

When two unions in one plant claim a majority, the employer can now call on the NLRB for an election to determine which has the majority. The employer cannot call for an election under any other circumstances.

If only one union claims a majority it is entitled to exclusive recognition. Where no union requests recognition the employer will not be entitled, under the new rules, to request an election.

2. **Collusive contracts between the A. F. of L. and employers.**

The Board may continue to set aside collusive contracts. This position has been upheld by the courts. Under the new rules, the Board will have to give notice to any union alleged to have a collusive contract of its proceedings. This is the only change made in relation to the problem of collusive contracts.

3. **Increase of time to answer complaint issued against employer by Board.**

Under the new rules the Board has permitted an employer ten days instead of five days to answer a complaint issued against him. This does not involve any serious change because, in the past, employers have received extension of time from the Board.

Both Good and Bad is Revealed In Tygart Valley Homesteads

By L. O. BAKER
Secretary Local 177, UCAPAWA

An article in the August UCAPAWA News by Otis Nation reminded us that we should write a short history of Tygart Valley Homesteads.

Tygart Valley Homesteads are located in a mountainous part of West Virginia ten miles from Elkins.

Started as subsistence homesteads, the project passed from department to department until it is now under the direction of the Farm Security Administration.

Homesteaders Organize

The Federal government started this proect about six years ago for famlies who were on relief. The idea was to set up a co-operative community and give the people selected a fresh start, with a new lease on life.

Trouble developed between homesteaders and managers of the project. The building superintendent allowed favoritism to spring into existence.

Wages were only for bare existence. Two years or more of this forced the men to organize. After a strike in July, 1937, the building superintendent and the management were removed to be replaced by new.

That was the beginning of our local. November 15, 1937, we affiliated with UCAPAWA as United Homesteaders Local 177. Conditions were very good for nearly two years

Woodworking Plant Forced on Community

The idea developed that a woodworking plant should be built to furnish employment to homesteaders. Some of the larger companies in the East had recently finished cutting over all the thousands of acres of timberland.

Eastern lumbermen fought the building of the plant on the ground that there was not sufficient timber. Men who were to manage the plant explained that the plant would manufacture dimension and glued stock and could use logs six inches or over or slabs from other mills.

The plant, they said, would relieve present small operators who were hindered by low-grade lumber which had no market.

Loan of $400,000 Forced on Valley

A loan of $400,000 was practically forced on Tygart Valley Assn. to act as a dummy corporation or holding com-

(Continued on page 13)

HORTICULTURE

UCAPAWA Wins In Cemeteries

By Ernest Prutzer
Business Agent Local 74, Philadelphia

The organizational drive of the Nursery, Florist, Gardener and Cemetery Workers' Union, Local 74, is well under way.

A strongly anti-union (North Cedar Hill Cemetery) company was the first tackled. It was obvious from the start that the company would not deal with the union.

Strike was called and all 20 employes responded. The strike has been on for four weeks and is still 100 per cent successful.

Not One Burial

To date not one burial has been made. The company has to call in scabs but none have gone to work. There will be no compromise here.

"We are determined to get a model contract with the union scale of 60 and 70 cents an hour" was the reply to the company's strike-breaking tactics.

Har Nebo Cemetery

A contract is being negotiated with the Har Nebo Cemetery and will be signed shortly. The contract calls for a closed shop, 60 cents an hour for grass cutters and 70 cents an hour for grave diggers and all year around men.

Grass cutters are guaranteed 26 weeks work with no lay off because of rain or inclement weather, one week's vacation with pay and six holidays per year.

This is but the beginning of our organizational drive. Every one of our members is participating in this drive, determined to wipe out sweatshop conditions now existing in Philadelphia cemeteries.

Will Any Team Challenge 120?

By JOSE M. POZOS
Local Press Correspondent

ORANGE, Cal.—Since the latter part of 1935 this local has distinguished itself in continuous struggle, without fear of any sort, raising high its banner against the winds.

From October of that year we understood the need for organizing. A few of us came together and we set forth to hold our own. Soon we joined the "Confederacion de Uniones de Obreros y Campesinos," after sending our brothers Pablo Alcantar, Jose M. Pozos and Jesus Magdaleno to the confederation's convention in Los Angeles.

While affiliated to the above-mentioned body, the 1936 citrus strike took place, the most memorable movement in Orange county, lasting over a month.

In November, 1937, we decided to become a part of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers of America, and from then on we expanded, forming sub-locals in West Anaheim, Los Alamitos and Anaheim.

After becoming UCAPAWA Local 120, in our efforts to extend our organizational drive, we formed a baseball team, now a victor in many games. Below is a photograph of the team.

BASEBALL TEAM CIO of Local UCAPAWA, Orange, Cal. Union brothers appearing in the photograph are, from left to right (sitting): Aurelio Garcia, Juan Ocampo, Fidel Hernandez, F. Lopez, P. Partida, J. Men[illegible], M. Calderon. Standing: our manager, Brother R. Zuniza, a union member from Stanton, D. Barajas, F. Yominguez, H. Armenta, L. Rubidux, W. Armendariz, M. Sais, J. Alcantar, S. Zavala, H. Dominguez, D. Acosta, V. Zuniga and Pablo Alcantar

Secretary-Treasurer's Column

BY
MICHAEL HOWARD
Secretary-Treasurer
UCAPAWA

The business of chartering new locals requires much more attention than we are giving it. Many of the problems of servicing which face our district and field representatives can be traced directly to poor judgment in chartering locals.

Many of us have the common misconception that every time we organize a new plant we must apply for a new charter. This is not always advisable. As a matter of fact, our experience indicates that in many situations it is not advisable to restrict membership to any one plant. In such cases it is much more advisable to bring as many workers as possible (preferably in the same general industry, though not necessarily) into one local. The reason why I say that we need not necessarily limit a local to one industry is because there are cases where it is better to have a single local consisting of several small groups of workers in different industries, rather than setting up these small groups in separate locals that are ineffectual and that require constant attention from the district and the international offices.

It is interesting to note that the strongest locals in most districts are the ones that have not restricted their membership to any one plant.

The fish cannery locals in Districts 1 and 2 have organized on an industry-wide basis. The shed worker local in District 2 has also successfully followed this policy, and has set up geographical subdivisions to take care of seasonal migrations. In District 7 one local has gone outside the confines of one industry and has successfully amalgamated relatively small groups of preserve workers, pickle workers, peanut workers and other types of workers.

* * *

A Thought for Labor Day

"We cannot preserve democracy here in our own country if we encourage, as a people, the overwhelming tidal wave of criticism, slander and abuse for an American institution like the CIO. . .

". . . If war comes, the United States needs the co-operation of the millions and millions of workers that are members of the CIO."

JOHN L. LEWIS

FISH CANNING and SEAFOOD

Gulf Coast Shrimp Workers Sign Up With UCAPAWA

By JOE WRIGHT,

On Sunday, August 13, shrimp headers and peelers of Palacios packed a hall in the small Texas Coast town. It was their first CIO, UCAPAWA meeting.

Never before in the history of Palacios was such enthusiasm and interest shown in a meeting. These workers had a right to be enthusiastic. For years they have been subjected to low wage and working conditions that humans could scarce endure. Now they can see the dawn of a new day.

Fishermen and Workers Stand Together

They can look forward to the day when fishermen and fish cannery workers, in the entire industry, will stand shoulder to shoulder under the banner of the CIO.

At this meeting scores signed up with UCAPAWA. Initiation and charter fees were collected. Fishermen over the entire Texas Coast are already organized into the CIO Inland Boatmen's Union.

Now that the shore workers of the industry are getting together, they and the fishermen will present a combination that will more than offset the Dealers' Association. In the past the Dealers Association has been used by employers to keep wages low, hours long and the price of the finished product to the consumer high.

Dealers Feel Low

Dealers who have robbed and stolen the catch from fishermen for years and then had it processed and packed under starvation wage conditions are the only ones not elated at the organization of processing and packing workers into UCAPAWA.

They are fidgety and realize the end of their era of plunder has been brought about by this new CIO-UCAPAWA movement.

In the past, men, women and children were enslaved many hours a day. The pay was a bare existence and sometimes not even that.

The CIO and UCAPAWA are marching along the Texas Coast and in their trail better wages and working conditions will follow. There is no reason why shrimp workers cannot raise living conditions as canned salmon workers did under the banner of UCAPAWA.

Meat Packing Groups Endanger Mexico—U. S. Friendship

By DIXIE E. TILLER
Local 64, San Diego

Pressure of meat packing and liquor interests in the United States resulted in Congress passing a law providing for duty on goods brought into this country by tourists from Mexico.

The Treasury Department has been reluctant to put the law into effect. Recently, however, it ordered that it become effective in October.

Enforcement of this law is in contradiction to President Roosevelt's good neighbor policy. The Mexican Government has hinted that unless the ruling is changed it may refuse to issue permits to tuna fishing boats from the United States. It is hard to criticize Mexico if she does so under the circumstances.

Serious Effects On U. S. Fish Workers

Resolutions have been drawn up by the United Fishermen's Union of the Pacific CIO, American Communications Association and the United Fish Cannery Workers Union Local 64, UCAPAWA. CIO. These resolutions are to be sent to all CIO unions urging that they have their membership go on record as opposing the enforcement of this ruling. If the ruling is enforced it will mean that the entire membership of the above named unions in Southern California will be thrown out of work.

Local 64 Charges Unfair Practices At Van Camps

Van Camps fish cannery in San Diego has fired five girls for union activity. Local 64, UCAPAWA, has filed charges of unfair labor practices with the NLRB.

Reinstatement with back pay is being asked for. The filing of these charges was a last resort. The plant committee had met with the company to negotiate, and although several concessions on other matters were obtained the company refused to reinstate these workers.

Gray's Harbor Area Reports Victory In Tuna and Clam Canneries

By EDNA CALCHINA
Local 239, Aberdeen, Wash.

This is the first year that any clam cannery in this district has worked on the hourly basis. Before it has all been piece work. This year women workers made in two months what it would have taken them two seasons to make before.

Before it took the clams two and one-half hours to get from the sheller into the cans. This year it takes ten minutes, so you can see the boss has a low cost of production now.

The clam packing season was late this year because the employer put in new equipment and did not have it instaled when the season started in March.

Tuna Canneries Sign

Tuna is a new industry in Gray's Harbor. We are happy and proud to say that Local 239 has already signed contracts with two new tuna packing plants here.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROCESSING

Victory Won At Phila. Cannery

Three hundred workers of Local 186 UCAPAWA recently concluded a closed shop agreement with Brown Packing Co. in Philadelphia. The contract has tripled employees' wages.

Company finally came to an agreement after three weeks of strife and strike forced on the workers.

Before and After

Before the strike, women worked packing frozen fruits, minced meats, vegetables, etc., at 4 cents a can. Working day was 14 hours. They average from one to 31 cans a day. It was not unusual for a person to have made only 4 cents in a day.

Now, according to the contract, the company pays an average of 31 cents an hour. Workers earn more now in two and a half days than they used to earn in a week.

Vacations with Pay

Workers will be paid on holidays, even though they don't work. Seniority rights are recognized. The 8-hour day was provided for with time and a half for overtime.

Each worker will have a week's vacation with pay. There is to be no discrimination for union activity.

Sam Schacter, CIO Representative, said: "The Plant has been transformed from a vicious anti-union open shop with sweat conditions to a closed shop and union conditions with fairly decent wages."

●

Lummis Workers Keep Union

Local 186 was forced to go out on a six-week strike against the Lummis Plant with headquarters in Philadelphia.

The company attempted to bust the union and destroy a closed shop contract, when two of the girls got into a squabble on the premises.

Lummis saw his chance and fired the girls. They had seniority rights and, according to the contract, the company could not do this without twenty-four hours notice of intention to fire.

Forty Walk Out

Refusing to deal wth the plant's grievance committee, the compay went ahead and fired the girls.

The season was at a low ebb, with only forty workers in the plant. They all walked out and stayed out for six weeks.

Lummis and Company tried to turn this action into a lockout and make the whole contract null and void.

Cannery and Preserve Food Workers' Local 186 stuck it out. On August 4 a new contract was signed with the company. It provides many improvements for the people working there.

●

Indiana Company Signs Contracts

The Frazier Packing Corp. of Elwood and Alexandria in Indiana signed an agreement with UCAPAWA on August 7. The contracts in both Plants provided for a closed shop, wage increases, seniority rights, grievance machinery and check off of dues.

Wage increases of 10 per cent went into effect immediately. Another 10 per cent will be added on October 24, when minimums under the Wage-Hour Law are raised.

500 Workers Covered

A total of more than 500 workers are covered in the two plants during the tomato pack. Approximately 100 workers are covered the year around.

Two new charters will be issued under this agreement. It is expected that organization work in nearby canneries will be spurred forward as a result of this victory.

This section of Indiana has been notorious for its starvation wages in the canning industry. Last year, at this time, the Frazier Corp. paid women 10c an hour and men 15c.

As a result of a strike, wages were boosted to 25c for women and 30c for men. Present wage increases put the Frazier Co. above the average paid in other nearby canneries.

Members of the committee that negotiated the contract were: Harold C. Moore, Carmen Coe, Mary Hancock, Pearl Gifford and Leif Dahl, UCAPAWA representative.

●

Corn Product Workers March

Workers in the world's largest corn refinery in Argo, near Chicago, are making steps forward against the $110,000,000 corporation which operates the largest corn refinery plant in the world.

Main grievances are interferences with union activity and the Bedeaux system of speed up.

Union Campaign

While waiting for the National Labor Relations Board, to hand down a decision to stop the company's interference with their right to organize, Local 169, UCAPAWA keeps the union drive steadily going.

Members of the union have adopted a campaign program that consists of mass meetings, auto parades and the issuance of a local Bulletin. In addition the local has established organizing committees to visit the homes of workers and urge them to join Local 169.

Local is happy to report that it is on the road to progress. Our membership is inspired by the revival of the CIO movement in the Chicago District and the great progress made in the packinghouse industry.

Program of Local 169

The following program has been adopted by Local 169 in the Argo Corn Products Co.

1. **Ten per cent wage increase.**
2. **Elimination of Bedeaux system.**
3. **Establish principle of seniority.**
4. **Equal pay for equal work.**
5. **Eight hour day and forty-hour week. Guarantee 40-hour week minimum with time and a half for overtime. Double time for Sundays and holidays.**
6. **Enforce the Wagner Act.**
7. **Week vacation with pay for employees with one year's service or more. Two weeks' vacation wth pay for employees with five years' service or more.**
8. **Recognition of the steward system and grievance committee. .. .. .**

●

Dog Food Plant Signs Up

By JOHN SCHMIES,
UCAPAWA Intl. Representative

Members of UCAPAWA are cheered by the excellent contract signed this week with the Rival Packing Co. of Chicago, manufacturers of dog food.

A flat ten cents an hour raise for both men and women is the outstanding feature of the agreement, which includes a guarantee of 32 hours pay per week.

The shop committee is fully recognized as the sole collective bargaining agent in the plant. Strict seniority provisions give a maximum of job security to workers.

Rest Period

Under provisions of the contract there will be a ten-minute rest period in the morning and afternoon. The vacation clause calls for one week paid vacation

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Dog Food Plant

(Continued from Page Twelve)

after a year's service and two weeks for those who have been with the company five years.

UCAPAWA regards the contract as a real victory in a newly organized shop where conditions have been far worse than in nearby stock yards.

Serviciced Signs Better Contract

A second contract negotiated by UCAPAWA with the Serviciced Products Corp. of Chicago has resulted in better conditions for the people working there.

Wages have been increased from 5c to 10c an hour. Seniority regulations are vastly improved and vacations have been provided for.

More Union Coffee Now

By HAROLD LANE,
President, District 5, UCAPAWA

Workers in the Gehlert Coffee plant of Detroit organized and won a contract last month. The company has agreed to the following points:

1. **Wage increases ranging from 1.50 to $2.50 a week.**
2. **The company recognizes a committee of workers to adjust their grievances.**
3. **That if the company does not live up to these agreements the UCAPAWA representative can come into the office at any time.**
4. **Company will not discourage membership in union.**
5. **These points to be signed and agreed to by the company and the workers' committee.**

Candy Workers Win in Milwaukee

By JAMES De WITT,
UCAPAWA Representative

United Candy Workers Local 233 UCAPAWA announces the signing of a new contract with the Geo. Ziegler Candy Co. of Milwaukee after three months of negotiations.

The contract gives union members in good standing preferential treatment on all provisions of the new agreement, over those in bad standing and non-union employees.

Wage Increase

Workers in the lower brackets will receive wage increases of 10 per cent. This will be retroactive to last May 1.

COMMITTEE that negotiated Frazier Corporation Contract

These increases will affect about 25 workers.

Local Pres. Ray Doll points out that the Ziegler line of candy bars, bulk candies and Betty Jane chocolates are the only union made candies in the Middle West. Union members are urged to ask for these candies.

The union is making a drive to organize this plant 100 percent and get the rest of the non-union plants in this area.

The Ziegler maintains healthful working conditions in its plant and has never been cited by public health authorities. Organizer James DeWitt assisted in negotiating the contract.

CONDITIONS AT TYGART VALLEY HOMESTEADS

(Continued from Page Nine)

pany for the building and operation of this plant.

The building and equipping of the plant was to cost $250,000 and $150,000 was to be used for capital stock. Three men from Gamble Brothers of Louisville, Ky., were selected to form a company to operate the plant.

They organized two companies. Kenwood was to operate the plant and Gamble Dimension Sales to sell the products.

Representatives of FSA and Kenwood wrote the contract between Tygart Valley Assn. and these two companies. Presented with a picture of the big things this plant was to accomplish, directors of Tygart Valley Assn. were persuaded to sign the contract.

Three Men Get $18,000 a Year

This contract gave three men $18,000 a year and traveling expenses when away from Louisville, a commission for selling and approximately half the profits. All this and they had not one cent invested in the plant.

Contractors for the building of the plant were a couple of friends of the operators. This took the profit made in building out of the state.

Our local approached the contractor about a closed shop. Although the contract called for the labor to be performed by members of the Tygart Valley Assn., it was so worded that they were able to give a closed shop contract to the AFL. Some few homesteaders joined the AFL.

Some smaller contracts, such as the sprinkler system, wiring, water tank, blower system were let, in most cases to scab outfits.

Company Union Propaganda Started in Wood Plant

When the building was completed, Kenwood sent a superintendent to install the machinery. He set his wages at 40 cents per hour for all workers. We finally secured a 40, 60 and 65 cent rate. It was a fight to keep the greatest number of homesteaders possible at work in the setting of machinery.

Some of our members decided to drop UCAPAWA when the plant started. They got a charter in the IWW. When this was done Kenwood officers began to work on the president of the local. They finally managed to replace the IWW charter with an AFL charter. Homesteaders became divided as the company had hoped.

Lime Plant Is Different

In contrast to the above is the story of our lime plant. When building the houses for the homestead a limestone quarry was opened on some of the land. A plant was erected that cost about $100,000. This plant was built by homesteaders n the then unskilled group. It has been operated entirely by homesteaders.

The experimental stage has been passed and a good profit is being made. Workers received from 50 cents to 90 cents an hour. Our local has a closed shop contract with this plant.

Homesteaders Divided Into Three Groups

Homesteaders on the project are divided into three groups. One group at the woodworking plant, one group at the lime plant and one group working for the management division of the FSA.

Of these groups the woodworking plant pays the least for the number of hours worked. The president of the woodworking plant realized this and was afraid workers there would ask for a raise.

To forestall this he took steps to lower wages in the management division. He went to Washington and shortly after, a notice was placed on our bulletin board announcing that while our wage rates were the same, per hour we were limited to $70 a month.

This man, who has a company union in Louisville and practically the same here, is now trying to control wages on all jobs on this project. We feel that somebody along the line is using homesteaders for experimentation, as physicians use guinea pigs. As long as we are controlled by men of this type there is no hope of bettering our conditions.

SUGAR

Courtesy Farm Security Administration

BEET WORKERS look forward to better contracts through UCAPAWA

Refineries Fight Sugar Act

By CLYDE JOHNSON
Intl. Representative, District 3

DENVER, Colo.—The sugar companies began the drive against the Sugar Act by getting grocers to join them in boycotting the recent fair wage and price hearings conducted in California by the Dept. of Agriculture. Only one small grower appeared for the California hearing.

The strategy of the sugar companies is clearly to boycott the hearings all over the country to make Congress believe the sugar beet growers are not interested in the present Sugar Act. The Sugar Act of 1937 expires in 1940. The next session of Congress, which begins in January will have to pass another Sugar Act if the present beneficial regulations are to be maintained.

The Sugar Act of 1937 is one of the best agricultural laws ever enacted by Congress for farmers and agricultural labor and is the only farm law that gives proper recognition to labor.

The Sugar companies have conducted a wide propaganda drive telling growers that benefit payments under the Act did not compensate for additional taxes under the law and that the higher wages for labor were destroying grower income from sugar beets.

Figures made public by the Sugar Division of the Dept. of Agriculture show that on the average the grower income from a ton of processed sugar beets has increased by one dollar under the Sugar Act while the processor's income has dropped 75c per ton under the same conditions. The big profits of the sugar companies since the Sugar Act was passed show they were able to accept that drop of 75c per ton and increase their net profits anyhow.

UCAPAWA BEGINS REFINERY DRIVE

BRUSH, Colo.—A meeting of Great Western sugar factory workers here to begin organization was addressed by Fred Hefferly, national CIO organizer, and Clyde Johnson, international representative of UCAPAWA. Harold Douglas, district board manager, arranged the meeting.

Contract Approved At Board Meeting

The union sugar beet contract approved at the last District 3 board meeting is rallying the best workers into the UCAPAWA fold in the Rocky Mountain area.

The proposed agreement embodies the following six points:

1. There shall be no strike or labor disturbance detrimental to the proper care of the sugar beet crop.

2. The worker shall abide by the union working rules. For a serious and deliberate violation of the union working rules the worker may be discharged by the grower; provided, however, that the discharge is made with the approval of the union. The union shall be responsible for supplying experienced labor to complete the contracted work on the above-described sugar beet crop.

3. Any grievance not settled satisfactorily between the grower and worker or union representative shall be submitted to arbitration of a committee consisting of three union representatives and three representatives of the grower.

4. The worker's annual union dues, amounting to six dollars ($6), shall be deducted from the worker's earnings by the grower and paid to the financial secretary of local union. . . .

5. The United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers of America and the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) will give the grower and his organization all possible support in obtaining an improved contract with the sugar company and higher beet prices for the 1940 season.

6. All conditions provided in the contract signed by and between the grower and worker at the beginning of the 1939 season and all requirements regarding labor specified by the United States Dept. of Agriculture for the 1939 season under the Sugar Act of 1937 shall be adhered to.

PETE MALFROID, Beet Workers Local 279, Blissfield, Mich.

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICTS

New Locals Established Since August 1, 1939

LOCAL No. 58, Coffee Workers Union, Chartered August 10, 1939. Type of work: Production workers in coffee and tea.

Chester W. Smith, Fin.-Sec., 18659 Fairport, Detroit, Mich.

LOCAL No. 98, Hugo Local, chartered August 10, 1939. Type of work: Sharecroppers, day laborers, tenant farmers in cotton.

H. N. Wright, president, Route 2, Hugo, Okla.

LOCAL No. 44, United Food Packers, chartered August 14, 1939. Type of work: Dog and cat food production.

Wendel Petricak, president, 4825 South Seeley, Chicago, Ill.

LOCAL No. 32, United Cannery Workers Union, chartered August 15, 1939. Type of work: Production of catsup, tomato juice and chili.

Mrs. Pearl Gifford, president, 619 North Eleventh St., Elwood, Ind.

LOCAL No. 507, Dardanelle Local, chartered August 18, 1939. Type of work: Sharecroppers, tenant farmers and day laborers in cotton.

Horace Thompson, president, Dardanelle, Ark.

District 3 Holds Board Meetings

District 3 held an executive board meeting late in July. Good part of the meeting was devoted to problems of sugar beet workers who are the main group in that district.

It was agreed that much more time should be given to organizing year-around factory workers in order to build a solid base for sugar beet workers in the field and at the same time improve conditions or year-around workers.

Work in sugar refineries has already been started in District 3.

Spanish Paper Welcomed

The board authorized the district officers to send greetings to the new Spanish paper issued by UCAPAWA. A proposal to support the paper by securing subscription was adopted.

Herrara Back

Fidel Herrara, president of District 3, returned from Wisconsin Summer School on Aug. 7 to give the membership benefit of new knowledge received from his studies.

The district was more than glad to have Brother Herrara back. His valuable aid will be needed in the hard months ahead.

Independence Day In Mexico

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.—Mexico's Independence Day, September 16, will have an extraordinary celebration this year. Labor unions, fraternal societies and social clubs are participating in a contest to elect a Mexican girl from San Antonio as Envoy from Texas at the great Mexican city festivities.

Pecan Workers Union, Local 172, has entered beautiful Senorita Elvira Chavez as the organized shellers' choice to greet Presidente Lazaro Cardenas in the name of 90,000 people of Mexican origin living in the picturesque Texan city.

Elvira Chavez, a proud UCAPAWA member, holds a strong bid in the contest, having second place in the latest count.

Mexican Independence Day celebrations in San Antonio will include a parade, with the participation of city authorities, armed and air forces and numerous organizations. Local 172 is enthusiastically preparing a float to follow the union's banner in the planned parade.

The winning candidate will be honored at a Mexican "merienda" on the 11th of September, taking place in the historic Casa del Gobernador, one of the city's oldest buildings.

SENORITA ELVIRA CHAVEZ

ATTENTION! EXECUTIVES OF UCAPAWA MEET

General President of UCAPAWA Donald Henderson has called a meeting of the International Executive Board to be held in San Francisco October 7 and 8.

"In view of the fact that the CIO National Executive Board meets in San Francisco October 5, and the CIO National Convention convenes in San Francisco October 10, I feel justified in calling the board meeting in this city at that time," said Henderson.

September 20 Is Deadline For Reports

Any locals wishing to make reports, send in resolutions and requests should send in their material to the International office of UCAPAWA not later than September 20.

District 5 Reports Progress

District 5 held its board meeting on July 15 during Brother Dahl's stay in the district. Brother Dahl is an international representative of UCAPAWA and one of the vice presidents of the international.

Main reports at the meeting were from District 5's three concentration points. These are Toledo, Chicago and Indianapolis.

Harold Lane, president of the district, made the general district report.

He said that the main point of concentration had been the Argo local near Chicago, where the largest corn refining plant in the world is located.

Under the leadership of Brother Schmies and the Chicago Canners Council, work in Argo is going forward.

Organize Competitors

Lane stressed the importance of organizing competitors of shops that UCAPAWA had already signed contracts with. This work is being accomplished. The Gehlert Coffee plant in Detroit was organized only a few weeks ago. It was a competitor of Woolson in Toledo.

Brother Lane said that we are on the way to putting District 5 in her rightful place as "tops" in the international.

Letters From Our Members

EAST TEXAS & GARDENS

As a result of a movement started by UCAPAWA leaders among the East Texas Farmers' locals, many of the members are starting frame gardens for fall and winter vegetables.

The frame gardens, designed by the U. S. Dept of Agriculture and demonstrated through the local Farm Security Administration and County Agents office are planned for the purpose of adding leafy food to the limited diet.

The small but efficient gardens are irrigated by underground piping made with discarded oil cans.

A demonstration frame garden is being built by the local at Easton. Other locals in the Longview area are planning to do likewise.

Fraternally,

Harry Koger,
UCAPAWA Representative.

●

ARKANSAS LOCAL FIGHTS PRESSURE

I keep on trying to do what I promised to do in 1936, when I started out organizing. During those years I tried to organize Crittendon County with Mitchell. When I met the sparkling eye of the boss men who asked me what I was trying to do, I would tell them I was selling insurance until I got tired of telling the same old story.

All my hard work under Mitchell's leadership came to nothing. But in the name of Our Father and Mr. Henderson I hope things will change now. I hope we will overcome the pressure of terror. If you just could only see and know what we are up against you would bleach like drops of snow. But I hope that Local 148 will overcome its difficulties.

Fraternally yours,

Emerson Buchanan,
General Sec.-Treas.

●

'WE HEAR THEY WILL PAY 40c FOR COTTON'

We, the committee of Local 61 in Earle, Ark., have heard that they are planning to pay only 40c and 50c for fall cotton picking.

PLEASE PUT THIS IN THE PAPER—WE ARE GOING TO FIGHT AND HOLD OUT FOR $1 PER HUNDRED POUNDS.

We also hear that they are going to bring in 700 Italians to pick cotton in case we refuse to do it for their low price.

From Council 61,
Earle, Arkansas

'We Won't Be As Lot's Wife'

Please publish in your paper the following address that I have made in the church here:

I said in my talk that the Negro can expect nothing unless he exerts himself in mass pressure with the rest of his people.

Political history shows that governments respond to mass pressure when the leadership is well directed. Negroes with their balance of power could demand almost anything they want in this country, if they fight for their right to vote.

I can say that we are pulling along together with our heads up. Let's go on and not look backwards.

Lot's wife looked back and she stands today. We won't be as Lot's wife. Please publish this.

E. H. Chairman,
New Friendship Local, Arkansas.

●

Woolson Spice Local Changes Officers

On August 2, Local 297, Woolson Spice, Toledo, O., held its regular meeting in the Riverside Boat Club, the newly selected headquarters. The change was made for the convenience of the local members.

Picnic Is Success

Saturday, Aug. 5, the Woolson Spice Plant held a picnic at Toledo Beach. It was sponsored by Local 297 and officials of the company.

The day was grand and the picnic glorious. Credit is due the committee and all those who helped put it over. They did a splendid job and no casualties reported.

Activities were many, such as races, prizes, baseball, quoits, bathing and dancing.

There was plenty of ice cream, soft drinks and eats and all the good old Woolson coffee you wanted. Let's hope we will live to have another one next year.

Labor Day Parade

Don't forget, Local 297, the Labor Day parade. See Nort Ackerman. Every one loves a parade, so let's make it a big one by marching and showing our strength.

Changes in Officers

Stanley Kaiser, president of Local 297, was newly selected secretary and treasurer of District 5. To Clyde De Good, the former secretary-treasurer, should go a vote of thanks for his excellent service rendered while holding office.

Arthur Lemke,
Local 297, Toledo.

California's Children

"The health-giving sun beats down . . .
They'll grow strong and brown!"
Small blistered hands reaching . .
Small thin backs bending.

"There are fresh fruits all year long!
Why, everyone must be so strong!"
Grapes, peaches . . . pick them fast!
We'll work as long as they last!

"And think—they can swim in the sea!
There are lots of playgrounds they tell me!"
Mother—can't I stop to play?
I'm just ten—must I work all day?

—GLENDA SHIELDS.

Plan Confab on Drought Problems

A drought relief conference is being planned by District 3, UCAPAWA, due to the partial destruction of the sugar beet crop in the Rocky Mountain area by dry weather and pests. Reports from local leaders show serious damage to the crop in many places. The district has sent out a questionnaire to the membership to determine how serious the situation is now.

Mr. Reed, of the Crop Reporting Service for the Dept. of Agriculture in Denver, said it was estimated on Aug. 1 that 20,000 acres of beets had been abandoned and the damage to the remaining acreage was expected to reduce the tonnage yield to about 25 per cent less than last year.

Beet workers face a doubly serious situation because of the cut in WPA quotas, the $3,000,000 cut in state relief funds by the Republican administration this year, and the fact that county relief funds will be reduced by tax delinquency on the part of drouhgt-stricken farmers. It is planned to request a relief grant from the Farm Security Administration to meet the situation.